

Application No.: 10/681,884
Date of Amendment: 01/05/2006
Date of Office Action: 07/05/2005

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for cutting a workpiece, the apparatus comprising:
a linear feed assembly capable of automatically moving a workpiece forward and backward along its longitudinal axis; and
an automated cutting assembly having at least one cutting blade, the cutting blade rotatable about a pivot axis, movable along a vertical axis into and out of cutting contact with a workpiece, and rotatable along a bevel axis, the apparatus ~~thereby~~ able to cut the workpiece at a ~~compound~~ bevel angle using a stab cut by simultaneously moving the workpiece along its longitudinal axis and moving the cutting assembly along the vertical axis.
2. (Original) An apparatus as in Claim 1 wherein the cutting blade is further automatically movable along a transverse axis, the apparatus able to cut the workpiece at a compound cut using a stab cut in combination with cutting while moving the blade along the transverse axis.
3. (Original) An apparatus as in Claim 1 further comprising a computer assembly for operating and controlling movement of the cutting blade.
4. (Original) An apparatus as in Claim 1, the cutting blade having a maximum cut length longer than the length of the compound cut.
5. (Original) An apparatus as in Claim 1, the blade having a maximum cut length of at least six inches.
6. (Original) An apparatus as in Claim 5 further comprising upstream and downstream feed assemblies operable to clamp and move workpieces, sense the presence or absence of a workpiece, determine the length of a workpiece, and position the workpiece for cutting at a selected length.

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7. (Original) An apparatus as in Claim 1, the blade having a maximum cut length of at least ten inches.

8. (Original) An apparatus as in Claim 1 wherein the apparatus is able to cut the workpiece at other than a ninety-degree bevel cut.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for cutting a workpiece, the apparatus comprising:
a linear feed system for moving a workpiece along its longitudinal axis; and
a cutting assembly having a cutter blade capable of cutting the workpiece using a stab cut, the apparatus capable of moving the workpiece along its longitudinal axis and simultaneously cutting the workpiece using a stab cut to create a bevel cut on the workpiece.

10. (Original) An apparatus as in 9 wherein the cutting blade is further automatically movable along a transverse axis and is capable of cutting the workpiece using a stab cut in combination with a transverse cut.

11. (Original) An apparatus as in Claim 9 further comprising a computer assembly for operating and controlling movement of the cutting blade.

12. (Original) An apparatus as in Claim 9, the cutter blade having a maximum cut length greater than the length of the bevel cut.

13. (Original) An apparatus as in Claim 9 wherein the bevel cut is a ninety-degree bevel cut.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for cutting a workpiece, the apparatus comprising:
a linear feed assembly for moving a workpiece along its longitudinal axis; and
a cutting assembly having a cutting blade, the cutting assembly capable of cutting the

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workpiece using a stab cut, the cutting blade having a maximum cut length and capable of automatically creating a bevel cut by simultaneously moving the workpiece along its longitudinal axis and cutting the workpiece using a stab cut, wherein the length of the bevel cut is greater than the cut length of the blade.

15. (Original) An apparatus as in 14 wherein the cutting blade is further automatically movable along a transverse axis.

16. (Original) An apparatus as in Claim 16 wherein the cutting blade is operable to automatically create at least one bevel cut on a workpiece, at least one transverse cut on the workpiece, and at least one scarf cut on the workpiece.

- 17. Canceled.
- 18. Canceled.
- 19. Canceled.
- 20. Canceled.